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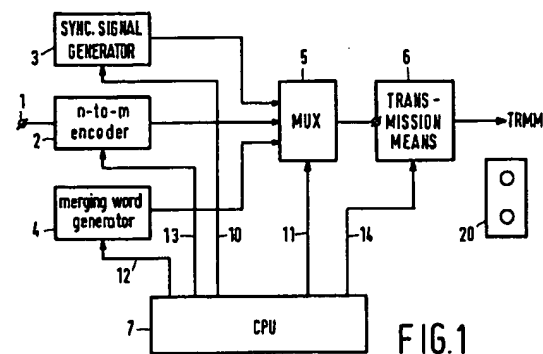
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(54) **Transmission and reception of a digital information signal.**

(57) A transmitter (fig.1) for transmitting a digital information signal is disclosed comprising an input terminal (1) for receiving the digital information signal, channel coding means (2) for converting n-bit information words in the digital information signal into m-bit channel words, where m and n are integers for which the following relation holds:  $m > n$ . Synchronizing signal generator means (3) are available for generating a synchronizing signal so as to obtain frames comprising a synchronizing signal and a number of channel words (CW1, CW2,...). Further merging means (4,5) for generating a p-bit merging word (MW) and for inserting the p-bit merging word between packets of q subsequent channel words each so as to obtain a channel signal. The channel signal is applied to transmission means (6) for applying the channel signal to a transmission medium (TRMM, 20). p and q are integers. The merging word (MW) can be a fixed p-bit word, two neighbouring bits of the merging word being (a,b), where a is a bit of a first binary value, b being a bit of the second

binary value. The merging words are used upon reception in a receiver (fig.4) so as to detect 1-bit insertions or deletions in the channel signal received, where  $p = x + 1$ . If the p-bit merging word is not a fixed p-bit word, the various p-bit merging words occur in a regularly recurring sequence.



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